EPITAPH To A Week

By LARRY POWELL

For those readers who must look back over the crest of a hill to see the generation gap, one of the few really "wizard" things to do is to create a "plastic" but well-meaning appearance.

If this persons happens to be a woman with some young adult daughters and some young adult ideas, this is an easy thing to do. Simply rummage through the mountain of costume jewelry and select a gaudy strand of semi-love beads.

Hang that stringer around the neck on which the wrinkles are covered by a "mod collar."

Scan the never ending rows of clothes hanging in closets and choose, well, a pair of white bell-bottoms. White tends to slim down certain body parts, according to experts.

Now the pre-fabricated old-timer is just about ready to go.

Uh, oh. Slap a black wig on that head to hide all those "silver threads."

Oh yes, you can't go into public without some "monster shoes." As if bunions and corns weren't enough.

Ah, the great American dream is now ready to attend the family reunion.

The family . . . including the eight-year-old daughter, is packed into the family auto and Dad, with the all-knowing smile on his face, drives the clan to the reunion picnic.

Soon the old girl is a smash. "Doesn't she look young." "What kind of cereal does she eat?" "I wonder if she does her own hair." "She hasn't aged a bit." "How does she keep her figure?"

Hours later, the eight-year-old is climbing around on the picnic table having alienated herself from her boy cousins of the same age because she has a meaner streak. A chicken leg in her left hand and her potato salad-smeared right hand clinging to Aunt So-and-So's formerly clean skirt for support, the eight-year-old hoists herself to the top of the table, putting her foot down in the chocolate cake.

The aunt, thinking to rid herself of the nuisance, asks, "Where's your mother?"

"Oh," the kid says, dropping the chicken leg into a pitcher of tea and pointing toward a cluster of uncles admiring the youngish post-middle-ager, "She's the one in the white bell bottoms who thinks she's a swinger."

Children should be seen and not heard, at least that's what they said in the old days.

OF COURSE, age isn't the only thing that creeps up on people.

Why just last Friday morning at 1:30 a.m., a Texarkana man was swimming at the Crippled Children's landing at Lake Texarkana when — now this is hard to believe — a sea monster bit him on the neck.

The radio dispatch from the police department followed the incident closely.

DISPATCHER: "The security guard at Wadley Hospital, just called in and said that they have a man down there who's been cut pretty bad on the neck. He told them a sea monster did it."

PATROL UNIT: "Did you get a description on that sea monster?"

DISPATCHER: "Don't believe so, this guy said he took off so fast he didn't see what the monster looked like."

As it turned out, the incision had been made by a broken bottle formerly containing the kiss of the hops. However, persons spotting a sea monster at the lake might contact authorities. Do not shoot the creature on Sunday through Thursday, however. The legal Texas season for sea monster is open only on Friday and Saturday nights following paydays. Sea Monsters do not abide in dry areas.

SERVICE AWARD — Ernest Walraven Fouke, Ark., left, receives a cash award and A Distinguished Service Certificate from the Federal Correctional Institution for his assistance in connection with institution activities. Fred R. Dickson, Jr., Associate Warden, right makes the presentation.

School Fund Decrease Noted

MT. PLEWSANT, Tex. (Special) — Mt. Pleasant's School District will receive $27,000 less in state supplemental funds due to a 33 and one-third per cent increase in the county tax assesment, according to Superintendent Dr. Terrell W. Ogg.

Ogg told the Mt. Pleasant School board that the increase in county tax assesments decreased the amount of supplemental funds from the state for the system.

The school board also filled 7 of the 17 vacancies in the school system faculty.

Other action taken by the school board included a five cent increase in the cost of school lunches, the purchase of a $1,071 lining machine for football fields and parking lots, the addition of a one dollar charge for issuance of tax certificates by the tax office; the extension of contract for ice cream to be served in the school; approval of the sale of a school bus; the purchase of ten manual typewriters for classes; the receiving of bids for 400 folding chairs for the high school and junior high school; authorization of plans to be drawn by an architect for painting and floorwork to be done at Brice Gym; bids for milk to be used at the schools to be accepted at a July board meeting and the adoption of a time change for board meetings.

Magee Named ACHA Member

ATLANTA, Tex. — James E. Magee, administrator of the Atlanta Hospital Authority will be inducted into the American College of Hospital Administrators at the 36th Convocation ceremony of the American College of Hospital Administrators.

The ceremony will be held Sept. 13, in Houston, Texas.

Magee was advised by Robert J. Stull, executive vice president of the American College of Hospital Administrators, that he had successfully passed the examination for advancement to membership and had been recommended by the Board of Governors to receive this advancement.

Magee, Paul Jackson and other members of the board of the Atlanta hospital authority will attend the ceremony.

TWIN CITIES Week in Review

TEXARKANA, ARK., Model Cities programs, despite a controversial move by the Arkansas-side board of directors to halt operation until the city government issue is settled, continued full sail, according to the Community Development Director, Tom McCrea.

The city government issue was raised when a committee of citizens began circulating a petition calling for a change in the city-manager type of government. The Committee for Representative Government (CRG) headed by N.H. Hilliard, is calling for a change to the city-administrator type. Hilliard reported that over 500 signatures of the 663 required had been gathered for the petition calling for the election of four directors from the city's wards, and three directors and a mayor at large.

SEVEN CANDIDATES for the city Board of Directors, filed with city clerk C.V. Young before the Tuesday noon deadline this week for positions one, two, and six, on the Arkansas-side board. Mayor J.N. Shoptaw declined to file for reelection because, "I feel I've served long enough," he said. Shoptaw and Harvey Nelson declined to file for reelection to the board of directors.

Filing for Shoptaw's position were Nathaniel Kyles and Whit Holman. Filing for Nelson's position were Plez Block, James Spears, Jr., and Calvin Stevens.

Filing for the remaining open position were incumbent Jack Trigg, and S.V. Hale.

Hale, Block, and Kyles are supported by the Committee for Representative Government.

DIRECTORS AND Neighborhood Council chiefs met Thursday to clear up the controversy caused by the petition, and by the proposal passed by the directors that threatened stoppage of the model cities programs. The board then cancelled the Model Cities ban.

THREE TEXARKANA, TEX., Model Cities projects received heavy criticism from a federal interagency work team Wednesday after being rejected by the team, Wednesday.

The team cited poor planning on the part of the local Model City agency as the reason for the rejection. Model City director Leo Bounds said that the three projects would be reworked and submitted.

The projects include the second phase of the city's street improvement plans, the summer recreation program and the summer tutorial program.

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE for U.S. Senator, George Bush, congressman for the seventh Congressional District (Houston) campaigned in Texarkana Wednesday and said that he felt President Nixon's decision to move troops into Cambodia would prove to be a catalyst to shorten, rather than lengthen the Indochina conflict.

STATE AND LOCAL law enforcement authorities staged consecutive vice raids Thursday and Friday nights on three Texas-side locations.

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AREA NEWS ROUNDUP

Tax Increase Ordered

MT. PLEASANT, TEX., property owners will be paying taxes on a 20 per cent valuation due to an increase in county taxes approved for Titus County by the County Commissioner's Court.

The tax increase, which was termed necessary by county officials to continue present services, will bring $47,000 in additional revenue to the county. The commissioners approved the five per cent increase in valuation and said the county clerk's office would be sending out notices concerning property value and setting dates for hearings by the tax equalization board.

OFFICIALS OF the Andes Door Company of Mt. Pleasant will rebuild their Mt. Pleasant plant that was almost totally destroyed by fire last may according to Gavin Huggins, general manager.

Huggins said the building contract has been awarded for a 30,000 square foot plant that will be the first phase of an expanded and modernized Andes facility. He said the new plant is expected to be in operation by September.

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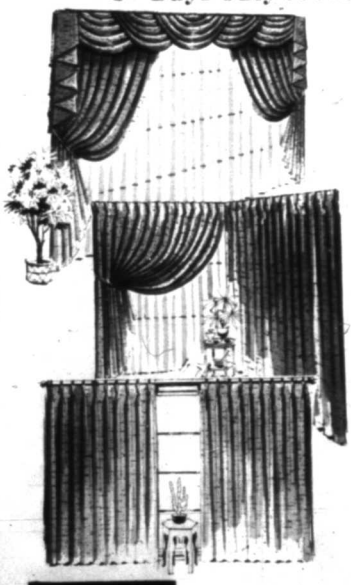

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